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GOVERNMENT OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Note verhaie dated 28 August 1985 from the Permanent Mission of
the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the United Nations
addressed to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Mission of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and, in connection with his note of 15 August 1985 concerning measures taken by Governments in the struggle against apartheid, has the honour to communicate the following.

The Soviet Union strongly condemns the racist régime of Pretoria, which inflicts arbitrary rule and violence on the majority of the population of the country and pursues a policy of aggression and State terrorism throughout the southern part of the continent.

Consistently pursuing a foreign policy based on principle and aimed at the complete and final elimination of colonialism and racism in all its forms and manifestations, the USSR supported Security Council resolution 569 (1985) - which strongly condemns the policy of apartheid and mass arrests and murders and demands the lifting of the state of emergency in the country and the immediate release of all political prisoners - as well as other United Nations decisions which brand the Pretoria régime's apartheid policy as a crime against humanity and as incompatible with the United Nations Charter, the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the principles of international law and as a violation of international peace and security.

* A/40/150.

Strictly implementing United Nations resolutions and decisions, the Soviet Union has no political, economic, military or other relations with South Africa and accordingly has no contractual or licensing agreements with the Pretoria régime.

The Soviet Union condemns the policy of the United States and its closest allies of expanding their military and political support of the South African racist régime, the United States policy of "constructive engagement" vis-à-vis the authorities in Pretoria, and their circumvention and violation of the relevant Security Council resolutions. The patronage afforded by those countries to the racist régime of Pretoria has increased the latter's aggressiveness against the independent African States and strengthened the repression and persecution of the opponents of racism in South Africa. The USSR supports United Nations demands for an end to the extensive co-operation of the Western Powers, and primarily the member countries of NATO and their transnational corporations, with the South African racist régime, particularly in the military and nuclear fields, which serves to strengthen that régime and prevents the elimination of the apartheid system in South Africa.

The USSR supports the demand of the African and the other non-aligned countries and the appeal of the General Assembly that the Security Council should adopt comprehensive and mandatory sanctions against South Africa in accordance with Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter, including the imposition of an embargo on the supply of oil and oil products.

The Soviet Union has given and is giving all-round support to the national liberation movements in southern Africa.

The USSR feels that the twenty-fifth anniversary of the adoption by the General Assembly of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, occurring this year, should be marked by decisive action to ensure the complete and final eradication of colonialism and the elimination of racism and apartheid.

The Permanent Mission of the USSR to the United Nations takes this opportunity to convey to the Secretary-General the renewed assurances of its highest consideration.

The Permanent Mission of the USSR to the United Nations requests that this note be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 35 of the provisional agenda, and of the Security Council.
